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# NOTTINGHAM COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Volume 22, Issue 4

July / August 2020

### Board of Selectmen Meeting

Submitted by Ben Bartlett

As your Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, I was appointed during an unprecedented time with COVID-19 affecting our great nation and our beautiful State of New Hampshire, our County and our community. This pandemic has affected all of us in some form whether it interrupts our daily lives, in forcing us to make changes, or the virus personally affects us or a loved one. This will surely change how we may conduct operations in the future.

I would like to personally take this time to thank all the town departments and employees. The Board of Selectmen have the utmost confidence in our staff on overcoming the challenges that COVID-19 has presented. These great men and women demonstrate it every day—superheroes don't always wear a cape. Is it an inconvenience? Yes, it is, but I'm sure we can all agree that a little inconvenience far outweighs the pandemic worsening and putting more lives at risk.

I would also like to thank our community for your patience, flexibility and understanding as we continue to chart our own course through uncharted waters. This is what makes Nottingham so great: Neighbor helping neighbor, and everyone willing to help someone in need. Let's keep that spirit going as we move towards opening our town again.

A special thank you to our teachers who in a split second had to adapt to a very different learning environment and the challenges they faced. To the Class of 2020, you have made history. Don't let this pandemic define your future. Grab hold of your future and make it your own. You can accomplish anything if you put your mind to it.

It's an honor and a privilege to serve on the Select Board and represent our community. I'm sure I speak for every board member when I say we serve to make a difference and meet the needs of our community.

### The New Hampshire Arts Guild

Submitted by Priscilla Carr

#### New Hampshire Arts Guild Literary Awards:

The Guild's Poetry Salon, announces Cate Dixon, a senior at Exeter High School (EHS), as recipient of The 2020 Jane Kenyon Poetry Honorarium. Dixon, Founder and President of EHS Poetry Team is New Hampshire All Youth Poet Laureate. Priscilla Carr, Poetry and Prose Chair, recently presented the cash honorarium to Dixon, who will attend Sarah Lawrence.

Exeter High School Junior Saranya Kolli, 2020 Poetry Mentee, will receive cultural excursions, an academic stipend, and Master Classes with Carr, culminating in a showcase of her work at WORDFEST. Kolli, Seacoast Poet Laureate, serves on NH Poetry Council. She plans to study law and incorporate writing for the advancement of social justice for under-resourced populations.



Saranya Kolli

Applications for New Hampshire Arts Guild 2021 poetry, prose, and speech writing honoraria and mentee awards open January 15, 2021. Email submissions to [priscillaecarr@gmail.com](mailto:priscillaecarr@gmail.com). No submission or reading fees.

**\*The Nottingham Food Pantry phone number is 679-5209.\*** The volunteers of the Nottingham Newsletter want to apologize for misprinting the Nottingham Food Pantry phone number in our last issue.

## New Hope Church

*Submitted by Pat Desrosiers*

In Mary McKinney's spare time this last winter she remained busy making mats for the homeless. Mary is a member of our Keenagers at New Hope Church. At New Hope we have a small program where we make mats for the homeless. The unusual part of these mats is they are made of plarn, which is plastic shopping bags made into strips. A few of the women of New Hope get together, bring our used plastic bags and cut them into strips then weave the strips together and roll the long strips into balls of plarn. Mary came to one of our get togethers and we showed her how we made them. She took home some bags and brought back almost 30 mats!

Mary collected more used bags from others and did the whole process herself, then crocheted 30 mats. The mats are then brought to Rochester's Grace Community Church. There Pastor Matt Nickerson passes them out to the homeless in the area. If anyone is interested in helping out in our program, call Pat Desrosiers at 603-686-9888. We want to thank Mary and all her hard work in her accomplishment of making 30 mats.

## Nottingham Democrats

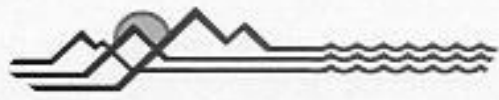
*Submitted by the Nottingham Democratic Committee*

As we all follow State guidelines to slowly and carefully reopen, we hope that we are able to be together again soon. Throughout these difficult times, we continue to meet and organize on the second Wednesday of each month, online or at the Blaisdell Memorial Library. 2020 summer meetings will be held on Wednesday, July 8 and Wednesday, August 12.

To check the status of meetings go to Facebook (Nottingham NH Democrats) or email hwr-nottdems@comcast.net. You can be included in on-line meetings, should they continue to be necessary, by contacting this email address. We are inviting candidates for Governor to our meetings and we will be organizing support for local, state, and national candidates who have stepped forward to run for office. There has never been a more important time to step forward and be counted. Join us in any way you are able – donate your time or money (in any amount), write letters, and talk to your neighbors. Be kind. If we all do a little, a lot can be accomplished to help make America good again.

### Other voter resources:

Voteinnh.org helps ensure Granite Staters have up-to-date and accurate information on how to vote in New Hampshire. It provides easy, accessible information on how to vote by absentee ballot, how to check to see if you are registered to vote, and how to stay informed on updated and changing information. Rockinghamcountydems.org provides training, professional staff, meeting space and advertising to help recruit and elect great Democratic candidates who will work for ALL of us. Subscribe to their newsletter!



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## Summer Reading at Blaisdell Memorial Library

Blaisdell Memorial Library is pleased to offer a summer reading program that will run from July 6 through August 7. Through the generosity of the New Hampshire State Library, we will be utilizing READsquared to complement our summer reading program. This is a virtual component that features a phone app for easy access and makes it simple to log reading progress. This summer's theme is "Imagine Your Story". Each week we will explore a new genre or facet of storytelling, such as animal stories, fairy tales, non-fiction, mythology/legends, and more.

Take-and-Make crafts along with ideas for more summer fun and reading recommendations will be available at the library or on our website. Library patrons, regardless of age, are welcome to participate, all library programs are free and open to the public.

Unfortunately, due to the current pandemic, we will be unable to offer any in-person or group programs although we will try to offer some that lend themselves to social distancing and utilize the library's lawn and grounds.

### Library Services during the Pandemic:

Please know that we are working to reopen the library in the safest way possible for both patrons and staff. We will be offering pickup of library materials on the porch throughout the summer for those patrons who need the service. This, combined with entry into the library by appointment, appears to be the safest way to serve everyone. We are monitoring the situation and making changes as we get updates.

For more information call 679-8484, email the library at [bmlcirculationdesk@gmail.com](mailto:bmlcirculationdesk@gmail.com), or visit our website: [www.nottinghamlibrary.org](http://www.nottinghamlibrary.org).



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## Nottingham Community Church, Unitarian-Universalist

We are a welcoming community to people of all faiths and creeds. During the global COVID-19 crisis, our building is closed but our church is open to all. Join us for weekly services on Sundays at 10 a.m. on Facebook Live @nottinghamcommunitychurch led by Interfaith Minister Craig Werth.

Our monthly coffeehouse/open mic night is now available online on the first and third Thursdays of every month at 7 p.m. Email Craig Werth at [revcraigwerth@gmail.com](mailto:revcraigwerth@gmail.com) or visit our website at [www.nottinghamuu.com](http://www.nottinghamuu.com) for more information.



### Nottingham Community Newsletter

Kathy Cinfo • Charlotte Fyfe • Mark Peters • Marie Slozak  
Mary Crockett • Amy Mueller-Campbell • Margaret Joyce


The Nottingham Community Newsletter is a community service and is published bi-monthly and mailed to every Nottingham resident. The deadline for submitting ads and articles for the September/October 2020 newsletter is August 1, 2020. Advertising size is 3.5 inches by 2 inches. Ads are \$20 for Nottingham residents and \$35 for nonresidents.

News articles (word document) and ads (jpg format) should be submitted via e-mail to [adnottinghamnews@gmail.com](mailto:adnottinghamnews@gmail.com).

The newsletter is underwritten in part by North River Printing of Nottingham.

*The publication of this newsletter is a public service for informational purposes only. The Board of Selectmen is not responsible for, nor do they endorse any articles or opinions stated in this publication.*

~ Submitted by the Board of Selectmen



**Nottingham Community Church**  
Unitarian Universalist

**Rev. Craig Werth**  
Interfaith Chaplain

Sunday service 10:00 a.m.  
106 Church St.  
[www.nottinghamuu.com](http://www.nottinghamuu.com)

**"Love is the doctrine of this church,  
the quest for truth is its sacrament,  
and service is its prayer"...**



Nottingham Recreation

Kortney Dorow, Parks & Recreation Director

Office Phone: 603-679-3435 x107  
www.nottingham-nh.gov/parks-recreation-department  
Current Hours of operation: Monday - Friday, 8-4 p.m.

Our Town website is newly updated and a great resource for all questions relating to outdoor recreation areas, youth and adult programming and community events.

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter to stay up to date in real time. Social media is a great way to stay connected, ask questions and get involved.

Facebook: @nottinghamparksandrecreation  
Instagram: @nottinghamparksandrecreation and @nottinghamearthfestnh  
Twitter: @ParksNottingham

We have also launched our new registration system, please go to our website for detailed instructions on creating an account. You will be able to rent the facility, sign up for programs and volunteer opportunities as well through this site. Trust us when we say this is going to make all your lives a bit easier when registering for our big programs like Summer Camp and Before and After School Care.

Announcements:

Summer Programming is out. Check out our website for youth and adult offerings, summer concert series updates and more!

TREX Recycling Program is back in business. Since the pandemic, reusable shopping bags have been put on hold. We hope you saved them all, because starting now, the collection is back up and running! Please go

to our website for more information about how to drop off your plastics.

Nottingham Earth Fest 2020 and Save the Bees 5K! has been postponed to September 2021. This was not an easy decision, but with this lost planning time it is the best call. To all those businesses who have supported us and continue to do so, we appreciate you and can't wait for next year. Nottingham be on the lookout for events and information to keep you up to date on the future, volunteer opportunities and more! We are not going anywhere, just taking a break. Make sure you head to our website for more information regarding this event and follow us on Instagram, @nottinghamearthfestnh.

Legacy Lunches (55+)  
status: Delivery Meal  
When: July 19, 2020

We will be delivering lunch July 19, to those that want it, need it, or just want to participate. Let us take care of a meal for you! Please call the Rec Office to be added to our mailing list! 603-679-3435 x107 or send us an email, recreation2@nottingham-nh.gov.

Summer Concert Series July-August  
Tuesday Nights from 6:30 - 8 p.m.  
There will be yard games, the 300<sup>th</sup> Committee will be grilling food, and a free raffle at each concert.  
Status: Check our website for the status of these concerts (subject to change due to pandemic):

July 14: Julie Dougherty  
July 21: Anderson-Gram  
July 28: Stone Country- Ellen Carlson  
August 4: Susie Burke & Dave Surette  
August 11: Wellfleet  
August 18: North River Music

Nottingham Parks & Recreation Halloween Party  
When: October 30, 2020  
Where: Town Offices, Gym and Trails  
Time: 5:30 - 8 p.m.

Come on down for some Harvest Family Fun! There will be a DJ, activities for kids and adults, a spooky walk in the trails and so much more. Bring the entire family!

Holiday Parade and Children's Craft Workshop  
When: December 5, 2020  
Where: Town Offices  
Time: 9:30 a.m. Line up begins  
10 a.m. Parade begins  
Workshop to follow- inside the Town Hall Gym

Before and After Care  
When: First day of school  
Information will be released in August.  
Where: Nottingham School Cafeteria  
Time: 6:30 - 8 a.m. and 2:30 - 6 p.m. all year long. No care on snow days and federal holidays

Martial Arts  
When: Mondays and Tuesdays  
Where: Community Center Gym Follow @ American Eagle MMA on Facebook

Zumba  
Status: will resume in the fall  
When: Thursdays  
Where: Community Center Gym  
Time: 6 p.m.

Line Dancing  
When: Mondays  
Where: Old Town Hall  
Time: 6 - 8 p.m.

Pickleball  
Status: TBD  
When: Tuesdays and Thursdays

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Need a helping hand or a listening ear?

Call Pastor Ted White 285-3533 or  
Chaplain Gary Anderson 231-5216

New Hope Church

PO Box 74

34 Raymond Rd  
Nottingham, NH 03290

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened,  
and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and  
learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart,  
and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is  
easy and my burden is light." —Matthew 11:28-30

www.new-hopechurch.com Join us 10am on Sundays.



## Union Hall

*Submitted by the Nottingham Historical Society*

Freeman Hall still stands in North Nottingham but not many people know there was also a hall in West Nottingham called Union Hall. As the population grew in the 1800's neighborhoods would band together and build a "Hall" where people could gather for church services and social purposes. It is not unusual for a New England town to have had a meeting place called Union Hall.

Union Hall was located across the street and down the road a little from Demmons Store. It appears on the 1857 map of Nottingham and was there until 1905. Mildred Colcord describes in a letter to Richard Demmons in 1971 what happened to the hall. "It caught fire and burned down on Wednesday evening June 7, 1905 while a dance was being held. A lamp exploded. My brother Harold was ready to pick it up and throw it out the window. When someone said don't touch it And it was soon out of control." Today only some of the foundation can be seen if you look carefully.

## Blueberry Pancake Breakfast

With the newsletter deadline a month before publication, the members of the Historical Society do not feel they can make a decision at this time regarding if and how the Blueberry Pancake Breakfast will occur. Please check our Facebook page, the Town website and the cable channel for updates in July. The is traditionally held the second Sunday in August at the Square Schoolhouse on Nottingham Square.

## Pawtuckaway Piecers Quilt Guild

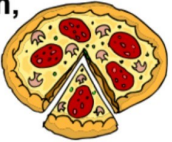
*Submitted by Pat Vachon*

The Pawtuckaway Piecers Quilt Guild meets the second Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at the Nottingham Community Center. The guild is a small group of talented, creative quilters who love to get together and share our love of quilting. There is usually an informative program at each meeting. We also hold an annual quilt raffle, a monthly Saturday sew at the Community Center, and an annual weekend retreat. Look for our next raffle quilt at various events around town. A portion of the proceeds will help support Nottingham's 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration.

New members and guests are always welcome! Our annual dues are \$20. A part of the dues goes toward charitable donations such as local food pantries, End 68 Hours of Hunger, and summer camp scholarships for our local Recreation Departments. You need not be an experienced quilter or a resident of Nottingham to join.

If you have any questions or would like more information about the guild, contact Pat Vachon at 603-679-8078.

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## Nottingham Water Alliance

The Nottingham Water Alliance (NWA) has filed an appeal in the NH Supreme Court to grant them legal intervenor status to defend the Freedom from Chemical Trespass Ordinance that they helped to pass at Nottingham Town Meeting in 2019. A similar motion filed in Superior Court was denied.

"We are the best advocates for this Ordinance that prevents corporate polluters from dumping toxic waste in Nottingham," said Peter White, NWA Treasurer. "The Town doesn't want to spend the legal fees to defend this Town Ordinance so we have to step up!"

A legal challenge to the Ordinance has been filed in Rockingham Superior Court by Brent Tweed of G&F Goods LLC. The NWA has contracted the Community Environmental Legal Defense Fund (CELDF) to help them to defend the Ordinance. CELDF works with community rights groups nationally and around the world that work to prevent the pollution and destruction of natural ecosystems. The NWA also helped to pass a Right to Water Ordinance in 2008 that prevented commercial water extraction in Nottingham by USA Springs and others, thereby protecting the local groundwater and private wells.

For more information contact Peter White (603-895-3857) or Michelle Sanborn of CELDF (603-524-2468).

## Nottingham Food Pantry

*Submitted by Chelli Tennis*

We are located in the Town Municipal Building. Our pantry services are only for Nottingham residents. Our mailing address is P.O. Box 209, Nottingham. We distribute on the third Thursday of each month. New clients by appointment, please. Call 603-679-5209. All calls are confidential.

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